

I claim:

1. A Tat-based tolerogen composition comprising at least one immunogenic antigen coupled to at least one human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) trans-activator of transcription (Tat) molecule.
2. The Tat-based tolerogen composition of claim 1 wherein said immunogenic antigen is a foreign antigen or an endogenous antigen.
3. The Tat-based tolerogen composition of claim 1 wherein said immunogenic antigen comprises a full length protein or a fragment thereof.
4. The Tat-based tolerogen composition of claim 1 wherein said immunogenic antigen is insulin or portions thereof.
5. The Tat-based tolerogen composition of claim 1 wherein said immunogenic antigen is a monoclonal antibody or portions thereof.
6. The Tat-based tolerogen composition of claim 1 wherein said immunogenic antigen is Factor VIII or portions thereof.
7. The Tat-based tolerogen composition of claim 1 wherein said immunogenic antigen is a carbohydrate antigen.
8. The Tat-based tolerogen composition of claim 1 wherein said Tat protein and said immunogenic antigen are physically linked via a protein conjugation method.
9. The Tat-based tolerogen composition of claim 1 wherein said Tat protein and said immunogenic antigen are linked through genetic engineering of their DNA to provide a recombinant protein.
10. A method for suppressing organ transplant rejection comprising administering at least one Tat-based tolerogen composition to a patient in need of an organ transplant.
11. The method for suppressing organ transplant rejection according to claim 10 comprising perfusing said organ with said Tat-based tolerogen composition.
12. The method for suppressing organ transplant rejection according to claim 10 comprising implanting a device saturated with said Tat-based tolerogen composition wherein said Tat-based tolerogen composition is released into a transplanted organ.
13. The method for suppressing organ transplant rejection according to claim 11 additionally comprising implanting a device saturated with said Tat-based tolerogen composition wherein said Tat-based tolerogen composition is released into a transplanted organ.

14. A method for reducing inflammation comprising administering at least one Tat-based tolerogen composition to a patient in need thereof.

15. A method for treating autoimmune diseases comprising administering at least one Tat-based tolerogen composition to a patient in need thereof.

16. The method according to claim 15 wherein said autoimmune disease is rheumatoid arthritis.